

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Subcommittee Meeting
Room 2A
Gresham City Hall
September 10, 2009 6:30 p.m.**

I. Opening/Citizen Comments

The Gresham Parks & Recreation Advisory Subcommittee (PRAS) was called to order by Chair Carr on the 10th of September, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 2A at Gresham City Hall, located at 1333 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham Oregon. The work session was transcribed by Ric Catron.

PRAS MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ron Bateman
Jim Carr
Eric Carter
Hank Hadaway
Anna Steirer

PRAS MEMBERS ABSENT:

Charlie Ciecko

NRSC LIAISON PRESENT:

Jason Howard

STAFF LIAISON PRESENT:

Ric Catron, Associate Park Planner

STAFF PRESENT:

Mike Abbaté, Urban Design & Planning Director
Jonathan Harker, Comprehensive Planning Manager
Todd Jones, Parks Operations Supervisor

COUNCIL LIAISONS PRESENT:

Shirley Craddick

GUESTS:

Lani Wild, incoming PRAS member
Stephanie Regan, Jacob Espinosa, Tristan Miller;
Project YES

II. PRAS Business / Action Items

Chair Carr welcomed Lani Wild on board to PRAS. Ms Wild's appointment to PRAS will be effective September 15, 2009 at the City Council hearing.

Jacob Espinosa gave a presentation on the need for a BMX bike facility in Gresham. He was joined by Stephanie Regan and Tristan Miller; all from Project YES. A 4-5 acre location is preferred. The BMXers are not apposed to doing the work themselves. Two different styles of BMX are used, "freestyle" and "racing". Chair Carr asked if they could approach businesses for soil, supplies, etc. Hank Hadaway made a motion to look into this concept further; Ron Bateman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The BMXers were provided Gresham Park & Recreation brochures and were asked to return in the future

with some recommended locations. Director Abbaté was impressed with the presentation and thanked the students for their presentation.

The role of PRAS was touched upon and will be the focus of next month's meeting. Chair Carr would like recommendations from City staff regarding a parks district prior to making any recommendations to City Council. Director Abbaté indicated the City would probably need to bring in a Consultant prior to going for a Parks district. This will be a slow, careful process for a tentative fall 2012 vote.

City Council will be meeting soon for their annual retreat, to set the 2010 City Council Work Plan. Chair Carr attended the September 8th NRSC meeting. PRAS members and staff offered some suggestions:

- Feasibility Study for funding a Parks District - Jonathan Harker
- Main City Park improvements - Eric Carter
- "Small ticket" items such as a dog park or Frisbee golf - Hank Hadaway
- Dog park - Anna Steiner
- Could dog license fees be applied towards a dog park? -Hank Hadaway. (Probably not as licensing is a function of Multnomah County.)
- Top 20 Parks Projects Priorities - Jonathan Harker
- Adopt both short term/long term operations strategies to maximize the lifespan of park facilities. The City needs to get the word out about City taxes being held at a low rate. Do a Parks Symposium; reach out to the neighborhood associations. - Eric Carter
- Use City newspaper to get the message out – Ron Bateman
- Provide Sustainability options from NRSC – Chair Carr

III. Other Business / Adjournment

Todd Jones reported that Friday, September 11 will be a Day of Service. The City Manager has requested that any employees that would like to use vacation time may do so to work in the parks. Two sites have been selected: North Gresham will benefit from new mulch spread on the trail and Binford Lake Greenway will have cattails removed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Chair

Recording Secretary

Date

Date